

2002 Ozone

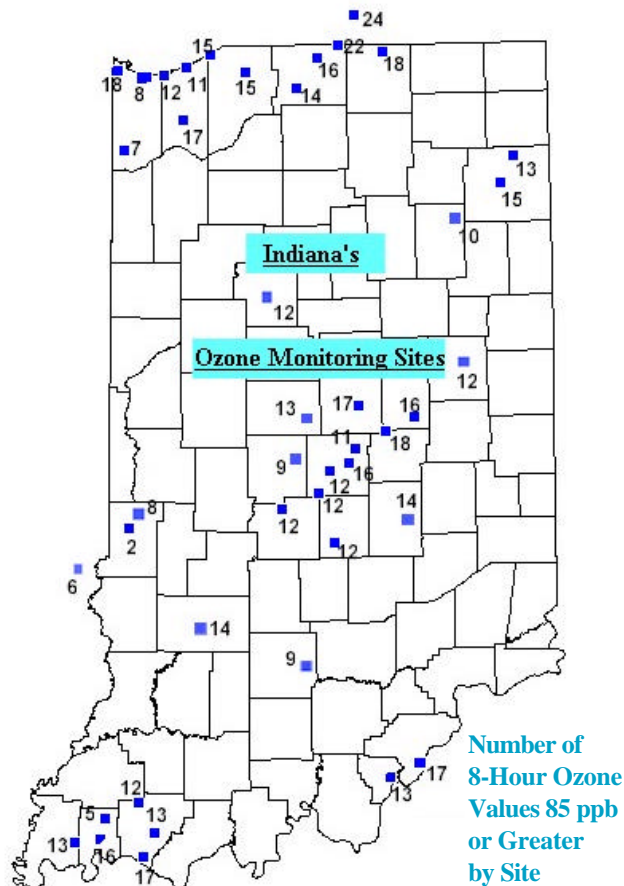
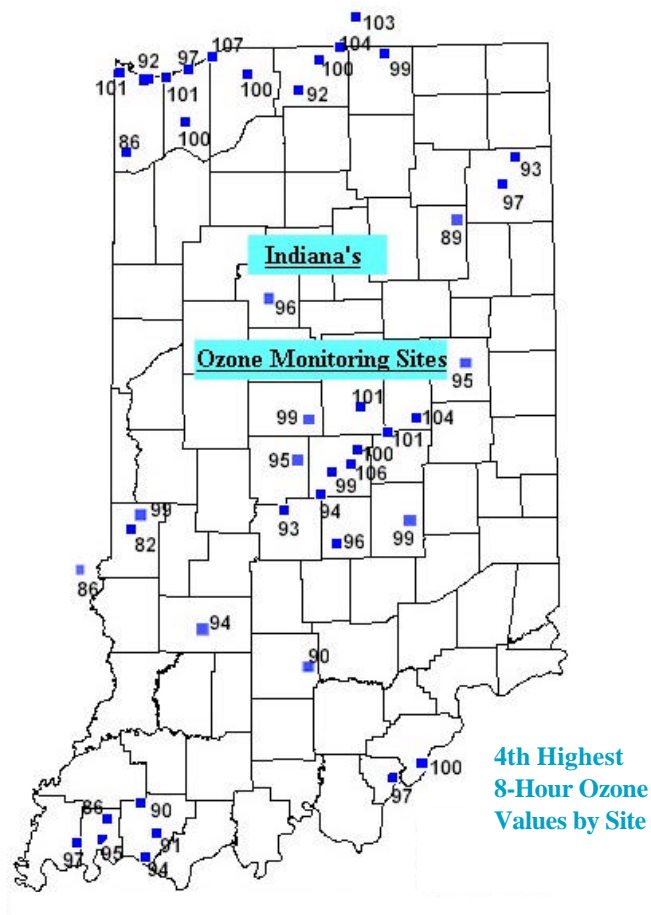


Season Report

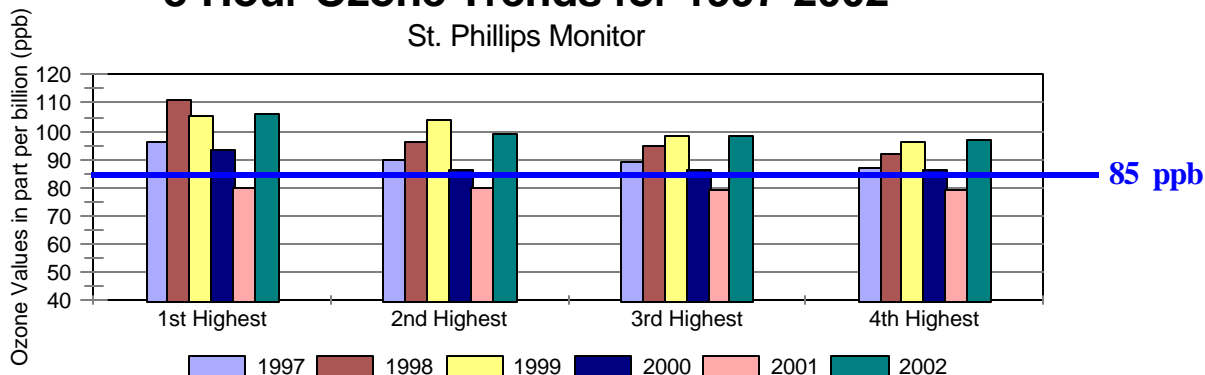
This report provides a summary of ozone levels (smog) throughout Indiana during the 2002 ozone season (May 1- September 30). Indiana has seven regions in the state where ozone levels exceed the new 8-hour ozone standard established by U.S. EPA in 1997. The 8-hour standard is 85 parts per billion (ppb) and is based on an average of the fourth highest 8-hour ozone values over a three year period. While implementation of the 8-hour standard has been delayed, IDEM and the public continue to take action to reduce pollutants that cause ozone and improve air quality throughout Indiana. IDEM is currently in the process of developing recommendations for the 8-hour ozone nonattainment designations. For more information please contact Scott Deloney of the Office of Air Quality at (800) 451-6027 extension 35684 or by email at sdeloney@dem.state.in.us.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) collects data from 42 ozone monitors across Indiana, including three new monitors installed at the beginning of the 2001 ozone season. Two new monitors were installed to assess air quality in the Vigo County area, one in Sandcut and the second in West Union, Illinois. The third new monitor was installed in Carroll County at Flora. The highest fourth highest 8-hour value was 107 ppb recorded at the Michigan City monitor in LaPorte County. The highest number of days in which the 8-hour standard was exceeded at an Indiana monitor was 22 days at the Granger monitor in St. Joseph County.

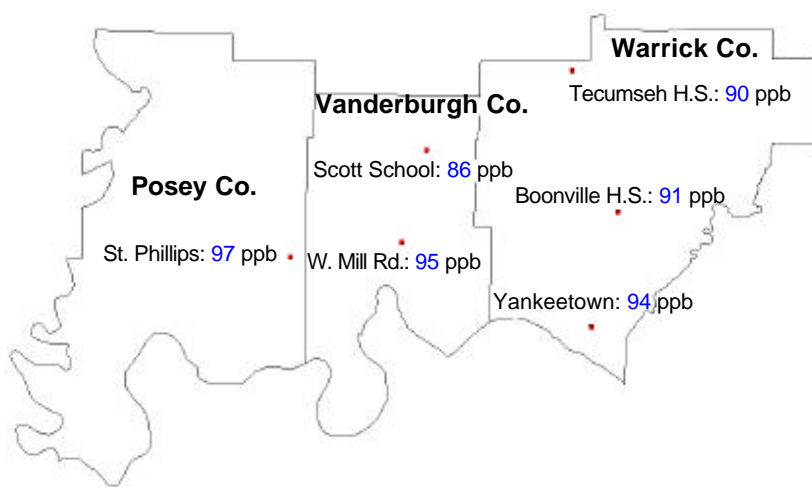
The maps below show the fourth highest 8-hour value at each monitor and the number of days in 2002 in which ozone values greater than 85 ppb were measured at each site.



8-Hour Ozone Trends for 1997-2002



Southwest Indiana 2002 Ozone 4th Highest 8-Hour Values



The Clean Air Act states that nonattainment designations will be based on three years of data. The chart above illustrates the highest four ozone values recorded at the St. Phillips monitor for 1997-2002.

In southwest Indiana, the St. Phillips monitor has the highest average of the fourth highest values over the last three years at 87 ppb. Southwest Indiana is at risk for being classified nonattainment for the 8-hour standard by the U.S. EPA.

The map to the left shows the 4th highest 8-hour ozone values for 2002 in southwest Indiana.

What Can You Do?

1. Get active in ozone planning for your community. Contact the Evansville EPA Ozone Awareness program to receive local information about taking a proactive approach to reduce ozone and improve air quality. Call IDEM at the number listed below for more information on how to get involved.

2. Get in the know about ozone levels. During ozone season, listen or watch for Ozone Action Day information on your local radio and TV stations. You can even get daily ozone readings, forecasts, and monitor data from Indiana's Smog Watch web site. Check out the Smog Watch Web site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/air/smog> or call our toll-free Smog Watch Forecast Line at (800) 631-2871.

3. Reduce your impact. Ride share; fill up the car or mow your lawn after dusk; and go inside the bank or restaurant instead of using the drive-thru. By making these efforts you can help reduce your impact on high ozone days. For more information on Indiana's ground-level ozone monitoring or voluntary education programs, contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (800) 451-6027.

